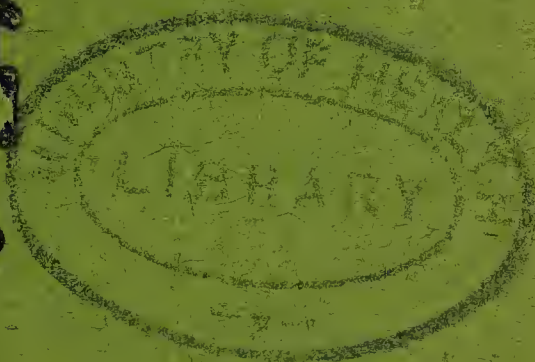


BOROUGH OF HIGH WYCOMBE



ANNUAL REPORT

on the work of the

Public Health Services

1947

A. J. MUIR, M.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

W. A. SHARP, M.S.I.A.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector

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BOROUGH OF HIGH WYCOMBE



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Health Visitors :

Miss F. A. GIBBS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Miss F. WILLES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Miss A. MATTHEWS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Miss M. PADFIELD, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Mrs. V. DREWETT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Dental Surgeon for Maternity and Child Welfare :

M. T. GIBB, L.D.S.

Consultant Obstetrician : A. MORRIS JOHNS, M.D., F.R.C.O.G.

Matron of Municipal Maternity Home : Miss A. B. MACDONALD,
S.R.N., S.C.M., Midwives' Teachers' Certificate.

Public Analyst : ERIC VOELCKER, A.R.C.S., F.I.C.

Senior Clerk : Miss L. M. URIDGE.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of High Wycombe

Gentlemen,

I submit my fourth Annual Report on the Public Health Services of the Borough.

During 1947 there were 820 live births, giving a birth rate of 20.6 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This is the highest figure reached since 1921, when the birth rate was 22 per 1,000. This rise in the birth rate is a temporary one, and there are indications that the rate will go down. The rate in 1946 was 18.72. There were 457 deaths during the year, the death rate being 11.5 per 1,000.

The infantile mortality rate increased from 14.99 to 28.05 per 1,000 live births. In a small town the infantile mortality rate is liable to fluctuate markedly; to get a reliable figure, one has to take the average of a number of years. Even so, the rate for 1947 (28.05) compares very favourably with the rate for England and Wales (41). To set against this increase in the infantile mortality rate there was a reduction in the number of still births from 27 to 17 giving a still birth rate of 20.3 compared with 35.47 the previous year.

It is noteworthy that not one single case of diphtheria was notified during 1947. Perusal of the records of the past fifty years shows that this is the only occasion this has occurred. It is worthy of note that between 1927 and 1941 the number of annual notifications averaged 28. Since 1941 the annual number of notifications has averaged 2.5, which may be taken as an indication of the value of preventive inoculation.

The epidemic of Infantile Paralysis accounted for 7 cases in Wycombe. It is unfortunate that the designation 'infantile' should have been given to this disease, as the incidence is by no means limited to young children. Six of the seven local cases were over five years of age, two being over the age of twenty-five. None of the cases was fatal.

Twenty-two deaths resulted from tuberculosis, an increase of 3 over the previous year. 53 new names were added to the Register as against 34 the previous year.

Although Scarlet Fever was more prevalent than in the previous year the disease was mild and there were no fatalities.

Measles accounted for 111 cases, an appreciable increase on the previous year, but no other infectious disease was unduly prevalent.

It has been possible to maintain the staff at full strength during 1947 and I am indebted to them for their whole-hearted work throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. MUIR

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Health Centre,
High Wycombe,
November, 1948.

SECTION I

Statistics :

Area	...	...	...	...	...	7,091 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	...					39,880
Number of dwelling-houses	...	...	...			10,740
Rateable value as at 1/4/47	...	...	...			£324,486
Product of a Penny Rate (Actual 1946/47)	...					£1,270

Rainfall :

Pann Mill, Easton Street	...	...	...	21.96 ins.
Widdenton Park, Lane End	...	...	...	24.06 ins.

Summary of Vital Statistics :

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births :				
Legitimate	784	417	367	
Illegitimate	36	18	18	
	—	—	—	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
Total Births	820	435	385	—20.6
	—	—	—	
Still Births	17	7	10	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—20.3
Deaths	457	226	231	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population —11.5

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :

	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes	One	1.19

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age :

Total Number of Deaths	23
Death Rate for all infants per 1,000 live births	28.05
Number of legitimate infant deaths	22
Legitimate death rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	28.06
No. of illegitimate infants' deaths	1
Illegitimate death rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	27.77
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	71
Measles (all ages)	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1
Total Tuberculosis Deaths (all cases)	22
Tuberculosis Death Rate (all cases)	0.55
Total Deaths—Respiratory Tuberculosis	21
Respiratory Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.53
Total Deaths—Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	1
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.03
Respiratory Death Rate (excluding Tuberculosis)	1.48

CAUSES OF DEATH**Causes of Death :**

	1946		1947	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	1
2 Measles	—	—	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
5 Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
6 Influenza	—	1	5	4
7 Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	1
8 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	11	7	10	11
9 Other Tuberculous diseases	—	1	—	1
10 Syphilitic Diseases	3	—	4	1
11 General Paralysis of the insane tabes dorsalis	—	—	—	—
12 Cancer, malignant disease	23	24	33	38
13 Diabetes	2	1	1	5
14 Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	12	23	13	23
15 Heart Disease	38	51	51	52
16 Other circulatory diseases	3	10	7	12
17 Bronchitis	10	8	15	13
18 Pneumonia (all forms)	8	5	15	7
19 Other respiratory diseases	9	—	8	1
20 Peptic Ulcer	5	—	4	2

				1946		1947	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
21	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) ..			1	—	1	—
22	Appendicitis			1	—	—	—
23	Acute infantile encephalitis ...			—	—	—	—
24	Other digestive diseases			5	4	5	5
25	Acute and chronic nephritis ...			7	7	10	10
26	Puerperal sepsis			—	—	—	—
27	Other Puerperal causes			—	—	—	1
28	Congenital debility and malforma- tion, premature birth ...			7	3	12	7
29	Suicide			4	—	3	3
30	Other deaths from violence ...			3	3	6	5
31	Other defined diseases			26	20	23	28
32	Causes ill-defined or unknown ...			—	—	—	—
All Causes				178	168	226	231

Birth Rate, Death Rate and Analysis of Mortality during the Year, 1947.

	Rate per 1,000 total population		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population								Rate per 1,000 live Births	
	Live-Births	Still-births	All causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 yrs.)	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	20.5	0.50	12.0	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.09	5.8	41
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	23.3	0.62	13.0	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.09	8.0	47
148 Smaller Towns (estimated resident populations 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census)	22.2	0.54	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.08	3.7	36
High Wycombe	20.6	0.43	11.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23	1.22	28.05

Puerperal sepsis Other Total

The Maternal Mortality Rates for England and Wales (per 1,000 Total Births) 0.16 0.85 1.01

The Maternal Mortality Rates for High Wycombe (per 1,000 Total Births) Nil 1.19 1.19

SECTION II.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals.

These are as described in previous reports.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

This is undertaken by the Local Nursing Association who employ Queen's Nurses—two of whom are engaged on general nursing work and three on midwifery.

Ambulance Facilities.

These are provided by the local branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The headquarters are at the Municipal Offices. Infectious cases are conveyed by the Fever Hospital Ambulance.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.**(a) Administered by the Local Council.**

Ante-Natal Clinic ... Municipal Health Centre. Wednesdays, 10—12 noon, 2—4 p.m. Fridays, 10—12 noon.

Women's Advisory Clinic Municipal Maternity Home, Shrubbery Road, Tuesdays, 2—4 p.m.

Infant Welfare Centres Municipal Health Centre, Dyke Meadow, Tuesdays and Fridays, 2—4 p.m.
 Methodist Schoolroom, Chapel Lane, Sands. Tuesdays, 2—4 p.m.
 Methodist Schoolroom, West Wycombe, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 2—4 p.m.
 Turner's Sports Pavilion, Totteridge, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 2—4 p.m.
 St. Anne's Church Hall, Wycombe Marsh. Every Thursday, 2—4 p.m.
 St. Birinus' Church Hall Booker. Every Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.
 Daws Hill Estate. Alternate Mondays, 2—4 p.m.

(b) Administered by Bucks County Council.

Tuberculosis Clinic 49a Frogmoor. Fridays, 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Venereal Diseases Clinic 49a Frogmoor

Mondays, 3—4 p.m.

Males

Mondays, 2—3 p.m.

Females

Thursdays, 5.30—6.30 p.m.

Females

Thursdays, 6.30—7.30 p.m.

Males

Dr. Korn is in attendance

Laboratory Facilities.

Facilities are provided by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service at Oxford. Results on 156 specimens sent during 1947 were received.

SECTION III.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

Ante-Natal Services.

During 1947, 504 mothers attended the Ante-Natal Clinics. 177 of these were confined in their own homes and were attended by the District Nurses.

Midwives.

The local Supervising Authority for midwives is the County Council. Three full time midwives are employed by the Nursing Association. They are accommodated at the Municipal Maternity Home.

Home Help.

A full time Home Help is employed by the Council. During the year twelve maternity cases were provided with assistance.

Maternal Mortality.

In 1947 there was one death from puerperal causes in High Wycombe. The following table gives the number of maternal deaths in High Wycombe and England and Wales for the last ten years:—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
High Wycombe										
Deaths from puerperal sepsis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from other puerperal causes ...	—	1	1	—	1	—	3	1	—	1
Rate per 1,000 Births (live and still) ...	0.0	1.9	1.7	0.0	1.5	0.0	3.7	1.5	0.0	1.19
England and Wales										
Rate per 1,000 Births (live and still) ...	2.97	2.82	2.16	2.23	2.01	1.84	1.53	1.46	1.24	1.01

Infantile Mortality.

The following table gives the infantile mortality rate per 1000 live births for High Wycombe and England and Wales for the last ten years:—

		1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
England and Wales	...	53	50	55	59	49	49	46	46	43	41
High Wycombe	...	26.5	40.3	50.6	31.5	35.6	24.6	34.7	31.9	14.9	28.05

Maternity and Nursing Homes in the Borough.

The following are statistics for the year 1947 for the Municipal Maternity Home, Shrubbery Road.

Number of maternity beds	...	...	...	...	16
Number of maternity cases admitted during the year	...				436
Number of cases delivered by:					
Doctors	...	...	...	...	191
Midwives	...	...	...	...	245
Average duration of stay of cases in the lying-in wards .	10.32	days			
Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by a midwife in emergency	...	...	...	...	27
Number of cases admitted after delivery	...	...	...		—
Number of infants wholly breast fed on leaving the Home					359
Number of maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	—
Number of Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	6
Causes of Stillbirths—					
Spina bifida	...	...	...	...	1
Difficult delivery	...	...	...	...	3
Delayed labour	...	...	...	...	2
Number of infant deaths within 10 days of birth	...	...			6

436 births took place in the Home during the year, 349 to Borough residents, 81 to County residents, and 6 to patients admitted through the Government Evacuation Scheme.

In addition to the Municipal Maternity Home and The Grange Emergency Maternity Home, “Wymers” Ante Natal Hostel, Handy Cross, was run by the Borough Council for the Ministry of Health.

The following are a few statistics in respect of the Hostel for the year 1947—

Number of beds in the Hostel	... ..	21
Number of cases admitted to Wymers during 1947		149
Number of cases in Wymers 31st December, 1946		7
Number of cases transferred from Wymers to "The Grange" and Maternity Homes	... ..	154
Number of cases discharged to own homes at own request	... ..	2
Number in hostel on 31st December, 1947	... ..	Nil

"Wymers" closed down on 31st December, 1947.

Besides the Homes given above, there were three Nursing and/or Maternity Homes in the Borough.

The Willows, 147 West Wycombe Road.	Registered to receive Maternity and Surgical cases.
St. George's, 123 London Road.	Registered to receive Medical, Minor Surgical, Aged and Infirm Cases.
The Sefton, 113 Totteridge Road.	Registered to receive Medical, Minor Surgical, Maternity, Acute Surgical, Aged and Infirm Cases.

During 1947 70 births occurred in "The Willows" Nursing Home—42 to Borough residents, 28 to County residents, and 89 births occurred at "The Sefton" Nursing Home—62 to Borough residents, 27 to County residents.

Both The Willows and The Sefton closed towards the end of the year. This will mean a great reduction in the number of maternity beds available in the district and will throw an additional strain on the Municipal Maternity Home.

Post Natal Clinic

Post natal cases are seen at the end of the ordinary ante-natal clinics. 237 women attended for post natal examination—a very satisfactory number having regard to the difficulty in getting patients to bother reporting for this purpose.

In addition, a Women's Advisory Clinic is held weekly by Dr. Marjorie Edwards at the Municipal Maternity Home.

Infantile Mortality.

Twenty-three infants under the age of twelve months died during 1947, giving an infantile mortality rate of 28.05 per 1000 live births.

Total number of neo-natal deaths (1-4 weeks) 17

Total number of infants' deaths under 1 year 23

The neo-natal deaths were made up as follows:

Prematurity	7
Spina bifida	1
Icterus neonatorum	1
Atelectasis	1
Haemorrhagic disease of the newborn	2
Congenital heart disease	1
Hydrocephalus	1
Erythroblastosis	1
Haemolytic jaundice	1
Congenital hydronephrosis	1

The deaths in the first year, excluding those given above, were due to:—

Dysentery	1
Hydrocephalus	1
Misadventure	1
Congenital duodenal atresia	1
Gastro-enteritis	1
Mongolism	1

Still-births.

During the year there were 17 still-births, giving a still-birth rate of 20.3 per 1000 births (live and still).

Sunlight Clinic.

46 children under school age made 442 attendances during the year. The clinic is held twice weekly excluding some ten weeks in the summer.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During 1947, some 452 children, not in school attendance, completed the full course for immunisation against diphtheria.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

Statistics are submitted of the work done in the 7 Child Welfare Clinics in the Borough, viz :—

	Health Centre	Sands	West Wy'be	Totter- idge	Marsh	Booker	Dawes Hill	Total
No. of Sessions ...	101	51	23	23	51	49	26	324
No. of children who attended during the year and who, at the end of the year were:—								
(1) Under 1 year of age ...	379	79	20	80	89	99	11	757
(2) 1.5 years of age	490	127	53	111	106	113	24	1024
No. of attendances by children:—								
(1) Under 1 year of age ...	6541	2250	252	728	1993	1862	356	13982
(2) 1.5 years ...	1894	751	304	559	231	489	99	4327
Total Attendances	8435	3001	556	1287	2224	2351	455	18309
Average attendance per session ...	83	59	24	56	44	48	17	57

Dental Clinic

The following table gives a record of the dental work done under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

	Nursing and Expectant Mothers	Children under school age
Number	14	88
Total Attendances ...	34	147
Permanent Teeth extracted .	27	—
Permanent Teeth filled ...	14	—
Temporary Teeth extracted	—	76
Temporary Teeth filled ...	—	95
Other operations	12	33
Dentures supplied—complete	—	—
—partial	—	—

Towards the end of the year arrangements were made for expectant and nursing mothers to have extractions under gas and oxygen anaesthesia and for dentures to be provided at very reasonable cost. This scheme is now in operation.

Ophthalmic Clinic.

Any child under five years of age suffering from eye defects may be referred to Dr. Stallard, the School Eye Specialist. During 1947, 27 children under school age were seen by him, 11 for the first time and 16 for re-examination.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.

Any child under five years of age suffering from ear, nose or throat defects may be referred to Dr. Wells, the School Consultant. During 1947 35 children under school age were referred to him for consultation.

Operative Treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids.

One child under the age of five years and not attending school received operative treatment at The School Clinic for tonsils and adenoids.

Provision of Milk, Cod Liver Oil, etc.

Cod Liver Oil and Fruit Juices and National Dried Milk are distributed at Sands, Booker, Marsh, West Wycombe and Totteridge Clinics under the supervision of the local Food Office. Proprietary brands of different foods (Cow & Gate Food, Ostermilk, Groats, Horlicks, Virol, Farex) are sold at all the Clinics. I.C.D. Tablets are also available, both at the Welfare Centres and at the ante-natal clinics.

Child Life Protection.

A register is kept in the Public Health Department as required by the Public Health Act, 1936, of all persons resident in the Borough who receive children for reward, together with the names of the children concerned. On the 31st December, 1947, there were ten foster children on the register.

Home Visiting by Health Visitors.

The following table shews the numbers of visits paid by Health Visitors during the year.

No. of Ante-Natal Visits:—

First Visits	...	...	...	...	...	340
Subsequent Visits	...	...	...	...	...	90

No. of Visits to Children under 1 year:—

First Visits	...	...	...	...	...	869
Subsequent Visits	...	...	...	...	...	5,051

No. of Visits to Children 1—5 years 5,177

Voluntary Helpers.

The following ladies assisted in the work of the Infant Welfare Clinics and their help was greatly appreciated:—

Health Centre—

Miss Allard	Mrs. Grace	Miss Nicholson
Mrs. Beauchamp	Mrs. Hall Patch	Mrs. Tilbury
Mrs. Bexon	Mrs. Harriman	Mrs. Ward
Miss Birch	Mrs. Harris	Mrs. M. A. Warren
Mrs. Fitch	Mrs. Herbert	Mrs. Williams
Mrs. Glenister	Mrs. Moss	

West Wycombe—

Mrs. Bird	Mrs. McKenzie	Mrs. West
Mrs. Elliott	Mrs. Phillips	

Sands—

Mrs. Crome	Mrs. Line	Mrs. Newell
Mrs. David	Mrs. Lovegrove	Mrs. Walters
Mrs. Ensor		

Totteridge—

Mrs. Harris	Mrs. J. Hoing	Mrs. West
Mrs. E. Hoing	Mrs. Puddiphatt	Mrs. Wheeler

Marsh—

Mrs. Jeffries	Miss Nicholson	Mrs. Simmonds
Mrs. MacLeod	Mrs. Schofield	

Booker—

Mrs. Bailey	Mrs. Brewer	Mrs. Jarvis
Mrs. Brake		

Dawes Hill Camp—

Mrs. Ward

SECTION IV.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

(a) Notifiable Diseases.

The table on the following page gives the number of cases during the year.

(b) Immunisation against Diphtheria.

The antigen used was Alum Precipitated Toxoid. The first dose was 0.2 c.c. and the second 0.5 c.c. was given a month later.

During 1947, 533 children (452 under school age and 81 of school age) completed the course of immunisation. It is estimated that 59 per cent. of all children in the Borough under five years of age are immunised and 85 per cent. of all school children.

(c) Scabies.

91 children received in-patient treatment and 174 children and 195 adults received out-patient treatment for scabies at "The Mount." These numbers include cases from the areas of the Wycombe Rural District, and Marlow Urban District, and the other surrounding districts.

(d) Isolation Hospital.

All cases of infectious disease needing hospital treatment are sent to the Booker Isolation Hospital, which is run by the Wycombe and District Joint Hospital Board.

The number of patients admitted and discharged from the Isolation Hospital from the Borough during 1947 is set out in the following table:—

Disease	Remaining 31st Dec. 1946	Admitted during 1947	Discharged during 1947	Died during 1947	Remaining 31st Dec. 1947
Scarlet Fever ...	4	73	69	—	8
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—
	—	10 carriers	10	—	—
Measles ...	1	4	5	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	5	5	—	—
Whooping Cough .	—	3	—	—	3
Poliomyelitis ...	—	5	5	—	—
	—	4 (suspected)	4	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ...	—	2 (suspected)	1	1	—
Sprue ...	—	1	1	—	—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES TABLE FOR 1947.

Disease		Total cases Notified	0-1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25 and over
Smallpox	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	74	—	4	2	22	33	7	6
Diphtheria	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid and Para-typhoid	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Pneumonia	...	10	1	—	—	—	—	4	5
Erysipelas	...	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	7	—	1	—	2	1	1	2
Measles	...	111	2	16	32	55	1	3	2
Whooping Cough	...	22	4	5	7	5	1	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	21	—	1	—	1	—	5	14
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	3	—	1	—	1	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	7	—	6	—	—	—	—	1
		273	9	34	41	86	38	22	43

SECTION V.

Tuberculosis.

The tuberculosis service is administered by the County Council. A Clinic is held weekly on Friday mornings at the County Clinic at Frogmoor.

The following table gives at a glance the position regarding tuberculosis in High Wycombe in 1947:—

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Totals
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
No. on Register on 1st January, 1947	79	67	146	37	36	73	219
No. first notified during 1947 ...	11	10	21	2	1	3	24
No. of cases entered in Register other than by notification ...	13	15	28	1	—	1	29
No. removed from Register during 1947:—							
(a) Died	10	11	21	0	1	1	22
(b) Removed from district	1	—	1	2	1	3	4
(c) De-notified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. remaining on Register, 31/12/47	92	81	173	38	35	73	246

The number of new cases and the number of deaths notified during 1947 are given in detail in the following table:—

Age Period				New Cases				Deaths			
				Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5				1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
5—10				2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10—15				—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15—20				3	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
20—25				4	5	—	—	1	3	—	—
25—35				7	9	—	—	2	3	—	—
35—45				—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
45—55				3	1	—	—	3	—	—	—
55—65				1	3	—	—	2	2	—	—
65 and over				3	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals				24	25	3	1	10	11	—	1

SECTION VI.

Prevention of Blindness.

During 1947 two cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified. An agreement is in force with the Oxford Eye Hospital whereby they will take any cases of ophthalmia neonatorum needing hospital treatment, providing they have accommodation. During the year no cases were so admitted.

SECTION VII.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the year 1947

Municipal Offices,
High Wycombe,
November, 1948

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN
and
COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGH WYCOMBE.

Mr Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Report on the Work of the Department for the year 1947.

The work has consisted, in the main, of dealing with day to day problems as no set programme can be devised owing to ever-changing conditions.

The transfer of the Shops Act, Explosives Acts and the supervision of the Mortuary was anticipated on the transfer of the Police. These additional duties have been merged in the general duties of the Department without the addition of staff but by a re-allocation of duties and credit is due to the staff for the able way in which they have undertaken these additional responsibilities.

The condition of the older types of houses within the Borough is a matter of grave concern and when sufficient houses have been provided for those without accommodation, these older type houses will be found to be beyond repair, and the rehousing of the occupants will be a major consideration.

The work of safeguarding the preparation and handling of food has been carried out with undiminished vigour, and the co-operation of the officials of the Ministry of Food with whom direct contact is made is fully appreciated, and the absence of any outbreak of food poisoning during the year has, no doubt, been in no small way due to that co-operation.

Details of the action taken by the Department in the administration of the various Acts, etc., are given under their various headings.

I would again thank all members of the Town Council for their support and the Officials for their continued co-operation and assistance.

I am,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. A. SHARP,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Infectious Diseases.

Visits Paid	...	...	...	...	...	...	158
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	32

Disinfection of Rooms.

Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	14
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	8
Non-notifiable diseases	...	...	...	...	...	3
Flies, cockroaches, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	32

Disinfection—Bedding.

From private houses—No. of articles	...	...	...	548
Scabies—No. of articles	...	...	...	Nil
Other articles removed on request, and for which payment was made:—				
(a) Neighbouring Authorities	...	...	...	103
(b) Private Firms	...	...	...	Nil

Disinfestation.**Eradication of the Bed Bug**

			No. of Houses	No. of Rooms	2nd. Treat- ments
Private Houses	...	...	9	17	Nil
Council Houses	...	...	11	29	3

Verminous Conditions.

The disinfestation of premises with solutions containing D.D.T. has been continued throughout the year, and it is pleasing to record that the number of premises reported to be verminous has decreased during the period under review, and in no case has a second treatment had to be undertaken. This is, no doubt, due to the more normal use of rooms for habitation and secondly to the more efficient materials in use.

Disinfection.

The use of the steam disinfector has been of great service for the disinfection of bedding and clothing in connection with infectious diseases.

Applications for its use have been made by adjacent authorities. No such application has been refused, and the cost in each instance has been borne by the Authority concerned.

Water Supply.

The whole of the water for the Corporation's area of supply is obtained from boreholes sunk in the middle and lower chalk strata and located at Pann Mill Pumping Station, Easton Street, High Wycombe. A yield of 200,000 gallons per hour is obtained from this source.

Water is pumped direct from Pann Mill Pumping Station into the distribution system, the surplus water to consumer's requirements being carried into covered-in service reservoirs which supply the area by gravitation when the pumping machinery is not operating.

The pumping machinery is electrically operated, all pumps being of the centrifugal multi-stage type. There are two borehole pumps, one of 165,000 gallons per hour capacity and one of 200,000 gallons per hour capacity. These pumps lift the water from the boreholes and deliver it to surface pumps which in turn pump the water into the distribution system and reservoirs. The surface pumps consist of two 100,000 gallons per hour low lift pumps and three 50,000 gallons per hour high lift pumps.

The Water Area is divided into three zones of supply, namely the High, Medium and Low level systems, fed respectively by Widdenton Park Wood Reservoir, Lane End, with a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons and a top water level of 665ft. above Ordnance Datum, Amer-sham Hill Reservoir, of 130,000 gallons capacity with a top water level of 524ft. above Ordnance Datum, and Bowerdean Reservoir, of 2,000,000 gallons capacity and with a top water level of 380ft. above Ordnance Datum.

During the twelve months ended 31st March, 1948, the total amount of water supplied was 815.24 million gallons, the average daily supply being 2.71 million gallons.

The water is clear and sparkling in appearance and of the highest degree of purity. As a precautionary measure all water supplied to consumers is sterilized by means of chlorine. During the hours of pumping, half-hourly tests for residual chlorine content in the water are made and additionally every fortnight a sample of water is taken from any point of supply within the Borough and despatched to London for a full chemical and bacteriological examination and report.

The following is the typical result of an examination of a routine sample of water :—

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance.		Turbidity (Silica Scale)	Nil
Clear and Bright		Odour.	Very faintly chlorinous
Colour. (Hazen)	Nil	Free Carbon Dioxide.	16
Reaction pH.	7.3	Total Solids, dried at 180°C.	300
Electric Conductivity at 20°C.	450	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate.	225
Chlorine in Chlorides.	12	Non-Carbonate (Permanent)	30
Hardness: Total 255.		Nitrogen in Nitrites	Absent
Carbonate (Temporary)	225	Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C.	0.00
Nitrogen in Nitrates	3.2	Free Chlorine Reaction	
Free Ammonia.	0.000		
Albuminoid Ammonia.	0.000		
Metals.	Absent		

Bacteriological Results.

(Bacteriological sampling bottles are treated to remove free chlorine if this is present at the time of sampling.)

Number of Colonies developing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in	)	1 day at 37°C.	2 days at 37°C.	3 days at 20°C.
	)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Presumptive Coliform Reaction. Present in — Absent from 100 ml.
 Bact. coli Present in — Absent from 100 ml.
 Cl. welchii Reaction Present in — Absent from 100 ml.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is hard in character but not to an excessive degree and it contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

The water is considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Statistics.

	No. of Houses piped supply	No. of Houses by standpipe	Estimated Population Served
Borough of High Wycombe	10,559	13	39,245
Supplied by Corporation Works to places outside area of Borough	1,236	60	5,373

Milk Supply :

Milk Special Designations : The quality of milk supplied under Special Designations continues to be, in the main, satisfactory. During the summer several complaints were received as to the poor keeping quality of T.T. Milk. Investigations carried out revealed that T.T. milk was obtained from a distance and the complaints were mainly concerned with this particular supply, and it was found that the souring was due to the length of time which elapsed between its production and its consumption. Complaints with regard to "treated milks" were however very few and the results of samples taken have proved them to be of a satisfactory standard. This is due to the installation of new machinery and very careful attention to detail.

The milk supply which has neither been treated or is not sold under a special designation was the cause of many and persistent complaints. Regard was given to these complaints, but the efforts of your Officers was concentrated mainly on the improvement of the supply in question. The complaints were due, mainly, to the extreme conditions prevailing at the time, coupled with a lack of water at the farm.

Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936

Licences granted by the Town Council under the above Order, during 1947, are:—

Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculin Tested (Bottling)	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tuberculin Tested (Supplementary)	...	...	...	...	...	9

Results of Samples taken.

				Results	
				No. of Samples Taken	Not Satisfactory
Pasteurised	...	...	15	12	3
Pasteurised (School)	...	...	6	5	1
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	68	54	14
Totals				89	18

Meat and Food Inspection.

The inspection of meat and other foods has continued to occupy a considerable amount of time, and your Officers have been called upon to give decisions on a large variety of foods.

Meat Inspection: The conditions under which home-killed meat is prepared for human consumption was fully reported upon in last year's Report. It is with regret that I have to report that no major improvement has taken place at the slaughterhouse, and it will be obvious that over the period covered by these Reports the satisfactory production of such an important article of food cannot be assured until alterations are carried out.

Inspection of Other Foods: The production of new varieties of foods, especially tinned fish pastes, was given particular attention, and it was noticed that certain brands were continually found to be "blown," although of comparative recent manufacture. In order to obtain a definite opinion as to the cause of these tins being "blown" in large quantities, a sample was submitted for bacteriological examination. The results of such examinations confirmed the opinion that these particular brands (of foreign origin) were unfit for consumption, and that the action of condemning same on all occasions was justified.

Whale Meat: During the year it has been found that certain supplies of whale meat were not being produced and delivered under hygienic conditions. The whale meat in question was delivered in a dehydrated form and was contained in sacks. A sample was submitted for bacteriological examination, and the suppliers acquainted with the adverse report on same, and the whole consignment was used for animal feeding. No further supplies of dehydrated whale meat have been received since this examination.

Other Foods: Various other foods have been submitted for bacteriological examination, found to be satisfactory, and no action was therefore necessary.

General: The supplies of food generally exposed for sale have been of a high standard.

Slaughter of Animals.

The total number of animals slaughtered at the Government Controlled Slaughterhouse during 1947 was:

Oxen	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,172
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	...	435
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,654
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,912
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Total							8,210

The weight of condemned meat and offal for the year was as follows:

Beef in Carcase	...	...	...	...	8,461	lbs.
Beef not in Carcase	...	...	...	...	5,384½	„
Imported Beef	...	...	...	...	5,475	„
Mutton in Carcase	...	...	...	...	171	„
Mutton not in Carcase	...	...	...	...	207	„
Imported Mutton	...	...	...	...	73	„
Pork and Pigmeat	...	...	...	...	584	„
Offals	...	...	...	...	10,382½	„
Total					30,738	„

	Cattle excluding Cows			Sheep and Lambs		Pigs
	Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs		
Number killed and inspected	1,172	435	1,654	4,912		37
Non-Tuberculosis:						
Whole Carcases condemned .	—	5	—	4		1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .	404	50	—	78		—
Percentage of the number killed affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis ...	34.81	12.64	—	1.66		2.70
Tuberculosis Only:						
Whole Carcases condemned .	1	11	1	—		1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	154	70	—	—		1
Percentage of the number killed affected with Tuber- culosis	13.22	18.62	0.06	—		5.40

Table Showing Condemned Organs of Animals.

	Heads	Tongues	Lungs	Hearts	Skirts	Livers	Spleens	Tripes	Cauls	Intestines	Mesenteries	Kidneys	Uteri	Bones	Udders	Tails	Totals
CATTLE																	
Tuberculosis	69	138	165	24	22	54	38	30	14	14	15	14	13	14	15	6	645
Flukes	—	—	—	—	—	371	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	371
Actinomycosis	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Cav. Angioma	—	—	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27
Abscess	1	1	6	—	1	24	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	36
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	—	51	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	51
Cysts	—	—	6	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Fever	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	32
Cancer	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Periocarditis	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Inflammation	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Moribund & T.B.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16
Physicked	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16
Septicaemia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16
SHEEP																	
Abscess	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Strongylosis	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Tenuicollis	—	—	—	—	—	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19
Flukes	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Cysts	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Pneumonia	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Haemorrhage	2	2	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	18
Emaciated & Dropsical	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	9
Mauled by dogs	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	9
PIGS																	
Tuberculosis	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	15
Abscess and Cysts	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Moribund	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	10
Totals	89	156	193	39	30	609	55	35	19	25	24	25	18	21	21	11	1370

Other Foodstuffs Condemned.

The following foodstuffs were condemned during the year ended 31st December, 1947:—

Bacon, 4½ lbs.	Macaroni Cheese, 3 tins
Bacon, 4 tins	Macaroni, 84 lbs.
Beans/Peas, 392 tins	Margarine, ½ lb.
Black Pudding, 6 lbs.	Meat, 347 tins
Cheese, 30¼ lbs.	Mincemeat, 1 jar
Cheese, 2 tins	Milk, 546 tins
Chitterlings, 270 Kgs.	Paste, 2 tins
Christmas Pudding, 2 tins	Peaches, 25 lbs.
Coffee, 1 bottle	Peanut Butter, 1 lb.
Corned Beef, 141 x 6 lb. tins	Pickles, 6 jars
Corned Beef, 3 x 2 lb. tins	Potatoes, 4 cwts. 1 qr.
Corned Beef, 342 x 12 oz. tins	Preservatives, 85 tins
Corned Mutton, 22 x 12 oz. tins	Prunes, 137 lbs.
Eggs, 675	Puddings, 2 tins
Eggs, tins/pkts., 9	Rabbits, 1 case at 60 lbs.
Fish, 381¼ stones, wet	Sauce, 2 bottles
Fish, 881 tins	Sausages/Meat, 51 tins
Fish, 3 boxes Herrings	Sausagemeat, 10 lbs.
Fishcakes, 344	Semolina, 4 pkts.
Flour, 2 bags	Soups/Stews, 90 tins
Fruit, 183 tins	Sponge Mixture, 4,397 pkts.
Guinea Fowl, 1 lb. 10 ozs.	Sweets, 28 lbs.
Ham, 10 lbs. 14 ozs.	Vegetables, 192 tins
Jelly Crystals, 1 pkt.	

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The following samples were submitted to the Public Analyst, with the results shown:—

Article Sampled	How Sampled		Result	
	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Almond Paste Substitute ...	1	—	1	—
Aspirin	2	—	2	—
Baking Powders, Gravy Mix- tures, etc.	9	—	9	—
Barley Flour	1	—	1	—
Benergy	1	—	1	—
Bi-carbonate of Soda ...	1	—	1	—
Black Pudding	1	—	1	—
Borax	1	—	1	—
Butter	2	—	2	—
Celery Salt	1	—	1	—
Coffee	3	—	3	—
Dried Egg	1	—	1	—
Dried Milk	1	1	2	—
Eucalyptus Oil	1	—	1	—
Gelatine	2	—	2	—
Gin	3	—	3	—
Ice Cream	—	1	1	—
Jams, Spreads, Lemon Curd, Honey, etc.	5	—	5	—
Jellies	2	—	2	—
Lemonade Crystals, Cordials, Flavourings, Essences ...	9	—	9	—
Margarine	2	—	2	—

Article Sampled				Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Meat Tenderiser	...	...		—	1	—	1
Medicines, Cough	Mixtures,						
Salts, etc.	...	...	...	16	1	15	2
Milk	...	...	...	64	—	56	8
Mincemeat	...	...	...	3	—	3	—
Ointments	...	...	...	2	—	2	—
Pastes	...	...	...	3	—	3	—
Pate de foie	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
Pickles and Sauces	...	...		3	—	3	—
Port	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
Potato Substitute	...	...		1	—	1	—
Salad Oil	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
Semolina	...	...	...	2	—	2	—
Spaghetti in Sauce	...	...		1	—	1	—
Spice	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
Suet	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
Sweets	...	...	...	12	1	12	1
Whale Meat	...	...	...	—	1	1	—
Whisky	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
Wines	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
Vinegar (malt)	...	...		2	—	2	—
Vinegar (non-brewed)	...			2	—	2	—
				166	7	160	13

During the year 55 samples of Milk were informally tested in the Department's Laboratory. These consisted of 40 samples taken at the time of formally sampling Milk (and when found on test to be satisfactory the official samples were not submitted to the Public Analyst), 1 sample at the request of the Medical Officer of Health, 2 samples at the request of a local Service Unit, 8 submitted voluntarily by dairymen for which a fee of 1/6 was charged in each case, 2 follow-up samples as a result of those submitted voluntarily by dairymen, and 2 taken informally by the Department.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The systematic taking of samples of foods and drugs has covered a wide range of goods. The Analyst's reports revealed some very useful information, and a short report on the facts and the reasons why Legal Proceedings were not taken on "non-genuine" samples are included for information.

Lung Syrups were reported as containing no sugar. Enquiries however revealed that war-time concessions allowed of such products to be sold as syrups. It was however noticed that some lung syrups did contain sugar and that those taking advantage of the war-time concessions were businesses which had either recently started to manufacture this type of product, or were firms of recent origin and therefore had no sugar allocation for this purpose.

Milk: Several adverse reports were received on samples of milk, mainly showing a deficiency of fats and solids-not-fat, but not confirming the presence of added water. Full investigations were undertaken in each case. Samples were taken on delivery and the producers interviewed. Satisfactory explanations were given and the results of later samples were up to legal standard.

The causes of these deficiencies were considered to be the extraordinary dry season and the quality of the feed given. Representations were made to the Agricultural Executive Committee and additional coupons given to the farmer.

One sample of milk was reported as containing added water, and legal proceedings were instituted in this instance.

Sweets—A sample of a sweetmeat termed “ Toffee Nut Crunch ” was obtained from a vendor in the Market and reported upon by the Analyst as follows:

“ Reducing Sugars ...	...	...	28.1 per cent.
Sucrose ...	...	...	3.4 per cent.
Nuts ...	...	...	Absent
Toffee ...	...	...	Absent

As the sample contained no nuts or toffee the description ‘ Toffee Nut Crunch ’ was false and calculated to mislead the purchaser. It was nothing more than puffed wheat (a breakfast cereal) soaked in sugar solution and subsequently dried.”

On this sample, legal proceedings are to be taken.

Suet—A small sample of prepared suet was deposited in the Office for examination and was sent informally to the Public Analyst. His report stated that the sample was not a sample of Suet, that it contained 40.7 per cent. Beef Fat, 59.3 per cent. Bread/Biscuit crumb and was deficient in beef fat to the extent of at least 50.9 per cent.

Owing to the length of time which had elapsed between the purchase and examination, it was impossible to obtain a formal sample of the mixture and no further action could be taken in the matter by the Department. The vendor was, however, interviewed and the matter reported to the Health Committee who gave instructions for the Food Office to be acquainted with the case and to take what action they considered necessary.

Meat Tenderiser—An informal sample of Meat Tenderiser was reported upon by the Public Analyst as containing Benzoic Acid, a preservative that is prohibited in such a preparation. This was followed up by the taking of a formal sample in the early part of the ensuing year.

Legal Proceedings for the year ended 31st December, 1947.

Acts, Orders and Regulation under which Proceedings were taken	Default or Offence	Result	Fines
Food & Drugs Act 1938, Section 3.	Sale of Milk to the prejudice of the purchaser. (Deficient in Solids-not-fat)	Dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act)	£2 2s. costs and 12/- Court costs
Food & Drugs Act 1938, Section 24, Sub-Section 1 (c)	Having possession of Milk to which water had been added	do.)	
Rag Flock Acts 1911-1928	Unlawfully having possession of Rag Flock which did not conform to the standards of cleanliness laid down	Conviction	
Rag Flocks Acts 1911-1928	Unlawfully selling flock which did not conform to the standards of cleanliness laid down	Conviction	Fine £2 Costs £3 3s.
			Fine £5 Costs £3 3s.

Appeal—The appeal against a conviction on a charge of conspiring in connection with Proceedings instituted in 1946 with regard to a sample of British Wine—Port Style was heard by the Lord Chief Justice on the 16th January, 1947, and dismissed on payment of costs, the fine of £100 and £25 costs inflicted by the local Magistrates being upheld. This is believed to be the first time in which a charge of conspiracy has been made in connection with the administration of the Food and Drugs Act and brought to a successful conclusion. A very interesting case from your Officers' point of view.

Factories Act, 1937.

Section 6: The inspection of factories during the year has been carried out on a routine basis, and it is very satisfying to be able to report that a high standard of cleanliness is being maintained. This is due to two causes: the willingness of owners of factories to provide more modern sanitary arrangements for their employees, and the more careful use of the accommodation provided.

Section 34: The modernising and extension of existing factories necessitates the issuing of, or renewal of existing Certificates for Means of Escape in Case of Fire in order that the factory in question may comply with the above Section of the Act. This has created much additional work and responsibility, as it is on these Certificates the Ministry of Labour and National Service depend for the safety of employees in case of fire. The co-operation of His Majesty's Factory Inspectors and your Officers is well maintained and is of material benefit.

Statistics:

Number of Inspections	494
Number of defects found	36
Number of complaints received from H.M. Inspector of Factories	28
Number of Fire Certificates issued	17

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919: Infestation Order, 1943

The system of rodent control has been carried out as in previous years by a full-time operator. The methods used are those recommended by the Ministry of Food and additional methods have been adopted in the light of experience. Additional agreements have been entered into between the Corporation and owners of premises for the regular treatment for the elimination of rats and mice. One such agreement recently entered into has led to a letter of commendation to the Corporation on the satisfactory manner in which the work has been carried out.

The control of rodent work during the year passed from the Ministry of Food to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The financial arrangements will not differ from those prevailing whilst the control was under the Ministry of Food. The change will have a beneficial effect so far as agricultural premises are concerned and will, no doubt, lead to the better control of congested areas adjoining such property.

Statistics:

Agreements: Current	10
Total Complaints received (each complaint requiring a minimum of 6 visits for treatment) ...	213
being complaints as follows:	
Business Premises	31
Private Houses	160
Factories	7
Schools	1
Not justified	14

Treatment has also been carried out on the Borough Sewer System on two occasions during the year, in June and September, when the infestation was found to be very slight, and on three block areas namely, Cressex Parade, Park Street Area, and Chapel Lane Area.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911-1928.

The co-operation of the trades who are users of Rag Flock has been well maintained throughout the year, and the standard of Rag Flock supplied has been of a fair average. Eighteen samples were taken for analysis during the year, sixteen of which complied with the Act and had an average chlorine content of less than 15.25 parts per 100,000.

It was noticed that a new type of material was being supplied, but was not sold as "Rag Flock" but as "Pulled Waste." A thorough examination of the material revealed that it was a material which came within the provisions of the Rag Flock Acts. This opinion was confirmed by the analysts to whom samples were submitted. The samples did not conform to the chlorine content laid down, and in fact contained a maximum of 103 and 160 parts per 100,000. Both samples were from the same consignment. Legal proceedings were instituted against the supplier and the consumer on whose premises the samples were taken, the results of which are set out elsewhere.

In view of the publishing of the Report of the Inter-Departmental Committee which considered the Rag Flock Acts 1911-1928, it was hoped that the recommendations contained therein would have become law. The Report contained recommendations for all filling materials used in bedding and upholstery and attention is again drawn to the fact that the Report made no recommendation prohibiting the importation of dirty rags to be used in the manufacture of Rag Flock.

Details of the samples taken, showing the chlorine content, are given below:

2 samples contained less than 10 parts per 100,000

2	"	"	"	"	12	"	"	"	
9	"	"	"	"	15	"	"	"	
2	"	"	"	"	20	"	"	"	
1	"	"	"	"	25	"	"	"	
1	"	"		103 parts per	100,000	)	Legal Proceedings instituted.		
1	"	"		160	")			

General Statistics.

Table showing the number of Inspections made during the year:—

Houses under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	1,140
Houses under Housing Acts	...	...	...	34
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	40
Water Samples (visits)	...	...	...	32
Tents, Vans, Sheds	...	...	...	11
Schools	...	...	...	21
Entertainment Houses	...	...	...	24
Accumulations	...	...	...	16
Animals and Birds	...	...	...	47
Stable Premises and Piggeries	...	...	...	32
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	2
Drainage Inspected	...	...	...	244
Cowsheds	...	...	...	19
Milkshops and Dairies	...	...	...	186
Markets	...	...	...	194
Slaughterhouse Visits	...	...	...	875
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	128
Meat Shops	...	...	...	253
Meat and Food Seizures	...	...	...	9
General Food Premises	...	...	...	141
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	216

Stalls and Hawkers' Carts	...	...	...	...	805
Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	312
Merchandise Marks Acts	...	...	...	...	1
Fish Shops and Fish Mongers	...	...	...	...	59
Grocers	...	...	...	...	149
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	27
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	23
Factories	...	...	...	...	494
Factory Canteens	...	...	...	...	26
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	48
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	121
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	80
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	8
Rats and Mice (Sanitary Inspectors' Visits)	...	...	...	...	104
Rats and Mice (Rodent Operator's Visits)	...	...	...	...	1278
Rats and Mice (Rodent Operator's Visits on Con- tracts)	...	...	...	...	608
Rats and Mice (Rodent Operator's Visits on Sewers and Block Infestations)	...	...	...	...	168
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	306
Interviews	...	...	...	...	515
Rivers, Streams, Watercourses, Ditches and Ponds	...	...	...	...	172
Squatters' Camp	...	...	...	...	53
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	24
Police Court Visits	...	...	...	...	5
Rag Flock Visits	...	...	...	...	52
Drains Cleared	...	...	...	...	50
Visits re Permits for Building Materials	...	...	...	...	109
Food and Drugs	...	...	...	...	106
Bacterial Quality of Milks	...	...	...	...	104



